

MICHIGAN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION & TREATMENT BOARD

Child & Family Services / Michigan Family Independence Agency

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**MICHIGAN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND
TREATMENT BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

February 7, 2001

Sheraton Lansing Hotel

Lansing, MI

***** APPROVED – April 3, 2001 *****

Attendance:

Ferne Farber, DV Board

Catherine C. Lucas, DV Board

The Honorable Richard Halloran, DV Board

Debi Cain, Executive Director

Michelle Bynum, DV Staff

Celestine Colton, DV Staff

Sandy Cory, DV Staff

Penny Hackett-Evans, DV Staff

Sarah Heuser, DV Staff

Julie Lyons, DV Staff

Anna Melbin, DV Staff

Carri Phillips, DV Staff

Karen Porter, DV Staff

Bethany Strong, DV Student Intern

Joyce Wright, DV Staff

Absent:

James A. Fink, Chair

Shirley Mann Gray, DV Board

Michelle Hayes, DV Board

The Honorable Edward Sosnick, DV Board

Guests:

Pam Forbes, Women's Information Service, Inc.

Cindy Fricke, Victim Advocate for Grand Traverse

Kathy Hagenian, MCADSV

Larry Hermen, Centerboard Associates
Peaty Hershberger, BISC-MI and Council Against Domestic Assault
Doreen Howson, Diane Pepler Resource Center, Inc.
Jan Mancinelli, Women's Resource Center of Northern Michigan
Barbara Mills, YWCA Domestic Assault Program
Linda Schmidt, BISC-MI
Susan Schoultz, Council Against Domestic Violence
Norma Tucker, My Sister's Place/Women's Justice Center
Gwyn VanDevender, Thumb Area Assault Crisis Center
Ginny Wood, Family Counseling/Catherine Cobb

I. Meeting was called to order at 12:30 pm. Four board members were absent. Due to a lack of quorum, action items were tabled until the April 11, 2001 board meeting.

II. Board Consent

A. Approval of Agenda: C. Lucas accepted the motion to approve but will need to defer vote until the next meeting. R. Halloran moved to accept agenda. Seconded by F. Farber.

B. Approval of Minutes: C. Lucas accepted the motion to approve but will need to defer vote until the next meeting. R. Halloran moved to accept agenda. Seconded by F. Farber.

III. General Reports:

A. Chair's Report:

1. Governor's Domestic Violence Homicide Prevention Task Force:

D. Cain reported on the task force. A written report from the task force to the Governor's office is due by April 2, 2001 with the focus on what can be done to reduce the domestic violence related homicides in Michigan. In 2000, more than 100 domestic violence related homicides have been reported; the number does not include children and suicides related to domestic violence.

Two vehicles are being used to look for recommendations. The first, sending out 200+ surveys to select law enforcement agencies, service providers, prosecutors, and chief judges for input on what was and was not working in domestic violence and compiling information into a data base.

And second, hearings have been set up initially in three Michigan locations. Based on the first hearing, the Oakland County Coordinating Council submitted recommendations on possible changes:

- a. Standardize police form for use across the state.
- b. Change city ordinances to 93 days to require entering information on LEIN.

Oakland, Wayne, and Kalamazoo counties are to be commended on their work on coming up with formal recommendations and testimonies. The task force was pleased with the first hearing in Oakland County and the information gathered. Discussion ensued.

2. Board Policy Review:

- a. Governance Commitment,
- b. Chairperson's Role,
- c. Committee Principles,
- d. Committee Structure.

Board members present felt no changes were required on above items a-d.

- 3. Board Meeting Schedule:** C. Lucas announced to board members that they will be surveyed in the next couple of weeks regarding future board meeting locations and meeting dates. Recent conflicts with meeting dates being on Wednesday have spurred the poll.

IV. Monitoring to Assure Organizational Performance:

- A. Executive Limitations:** Because of a lack of quorum, these items will be added to the April agenda.
 - 1. Treatment of Staff:** D. Cain reported that the treatment of staff is generally under the jurisdiction of Civil Service rules. One area flagged was follow up with Dr. Jane White. Dr. White facilitated a staff meeting in November 1999. Her report from the November meeting will be the focus of a staff meeting in February picking up a number of different issues including progress made and team development. D. Cain will report back to board.
 - 2. Financial Condition:** The continuation of the \$1.5 million enhancement of rape prevention services monies became an issue. Doug Howard indicated to D. Cain and to MCADSV that the money may remain in the budget for next year based on newer TANF figures available to FIA.

- 3. Treatment of Consumers:** An ombudsman function, as suggested at the June 2000 retreat, was discussed. The feasibility and mode of this function is still under staff review.

V. Executive Director's Report on Ends Development:

- A. New and Emerging Domestic Violence Programs:** D. Cain reported on this topic. A paper written by the Wisconsin Domestic Violence Funder will be sent to the board. The paper talks about Wisconsin going through the same struggles as Michigan. Their legislation mandated that monies could not be received unless specific services are provided which are very similar to those specified in our comprehensive contract. Under served and under represented populations tend to get left out of the mix. A generic package needs to be developed which speaks to the larger populous and still serves the needs of the under served and under represented. C. Lucas suggested developing a time line for policy answers.

Discussion was opened to the floor. Subjects of great concern included: reaching survivors who have not yet been reached and dealing with national domestic violence issues as a group.

VI. Ends Development:

- A. Quality Assurance and Monitoring (QA):** The QA process was presented by J. Wright and K. Porter. The QA is a three-part peer monitoring process: preparation of process, actual site visit, and post work done.

J. Wright began speaking on the preparation. Peers are selected from the 45 domestic violence agencies. Key elements needed in selecting the peers are expertise, time, and interest. MDVPTB staff round out the monitoring teams. The teams plan each review using a flow chart describing specific steps involved in selection and contact with site, the actual on-site visit, and final report and recommendations of their findings.

K. Porter reported on the three actual on-site reviews thus far. The 3-1/2 day process consisted of 85 quality assurance standards and 53 best practices standards being reviewed and rated.

A group participation exercise was handed out. The exercise targeted on the eight aspects of quality assurance and monitoring that the ratings are based:

- 1. Policy and Governance,**

2. Community Relations Fund Development,
3. Program Administration Service Delivery,
4. Staff and Volunteers,
5. System Change,
6. Financial Management,
7. Facility, Health, Security, and Safety,
8. Contract Requirements.

Participating agencies can expect a written final report within 30 – 45 days after the completed monitoring visit containing outcomes, recommendations, and time frames.

Two team members, J. Mancinelli and B. Mills, expressed feelings of both exhilaration and exhaustion as they participated on these teams. The teams work extremely hard and diligently during the 3-1/2 day reviews. The quality assurance and monitoring process continues to evolve with each visit and continues to be one that is very educational and enlightening.

B. Geyer was acknowledged, as she was instrumental in the training of the teams and available to answer technical questions as they arise. The board thanked the peers and MDVPTB staff for their professionalism in this project.

B. Items of Business: A Friend of the Court Resource book, funded by MDVPTB, was passed around.

D. Cain unveiled the potential logo for the MDVPTB. The logo speaks to the MDVPTB as being the hub of the wheel, puzzle pieces surrounding the hub, and with a tag line “uniting Michigan’s efforts to eliminate domestic and sexual violence.” The logo will represent the MDVPTB on the annual report, brochures, correspondence, calling cards, etc.

R. Halloran announced that the State Bar of Michigan is conducting pro bono training on domestic violence for attorneys to represent victims in domestic violence. The MDVPTB will help underwrite the effort.

As a member of the domestic violence committee and board of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ), R. Halloran thanked the MDVPTB for their support.

R. Halloran briefly described a new program: “MARK.” M(en) A(ction) R(esponsibly) is the K(ey) in helping end family violence. This is a newly established group designed to make men aware of what they can do to help in ending domestic violence. Seed money has

been made available, and a press conference may be scheduled the Saturday before Father's Day announcing MARK.

VII. Public Comment:

L. Schmidt announced that the BISC-MI Coalition Conference is scheduled for March 29 & 30 in Sault Ste. Marie, MI. Ellen Pentz will speak about batterers intervention. The conference is being partially funded by the MDVPTB.

S. Schultz made available a brochure by BISC-MI with their program and mission statement. They can be obtained through BISC-MI.

K. Hagenian acknowledged D. Cain's one-year anniversary as Executive Director of the MDVPTB. A huge round of applause acknowledged her work and dedication.

A one-day MCADSV conference will be held March 28 with Ellen Pentz as guest speaker (prior to her engagement at the BISC-MI conference).

VIII. Process Evaluation: There was no process evaluation at this meeting.

IX. ADJOURNMENT: The open meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m. The board continued to meet with D. Cain to review the Executive Director performance evaluation.